

LOOKING DOWN ON THE RUINS OF VERDUN



This remarkable photograph of the ruins of Verdun, after five months of almost continuous shelling, was taken from a French aeroplane. Scarcely a building in the city remains intact.

RUSSIAN CAVALRY ON MARCH IN GALICIA



Body of Russian cavalry on the way to the front in Galicia, where this arm of the service is of much more use than on the western front.

HOT WORK IN THE TRENCHES



This Italian sharpshooter firing from a shelter trench is fighting in his shirt sleeves on account of the intense heat.

COMMISSION NAMED BY CARRANZA



These are the men named by General Carranza to meet the American commissioners and adjust the differences between Mexico and the United States. Left to right, they are: Ignacio Bonillas, subsecretary in charge of ministry of communications and public works; Alberto J. Paul, general manager constitutional railways of Mexico; Luis Cabrera, secretary of finance and public credit.

ROYAL HOSPITAL NURSE



Queen Augusta Victoria, wife of ex-King Manuel of Portugal, in her nurse's costume, walking across a hospital lawn. Queen Augusta Victoria is now serving as a nurse at the Third Wandsworth general hospital in England. Her mother-in-law, Queen Amelie of Portugal, is also serving in the same capacity in the same hospital. Augusta Victoria is the oldest child and only daughter of Prince William of Hohenzollern, head of the older branch of the Hohenzollern family to which the Kaiser belongs.

Too Tolerant.

Bishop Conra said at a dinner in Newport News: "Some folks regard their sins in too generous and tolerant a way. They're like Cal Clay. 'I said to Cal one day: 'Calhoun, my man, General Douglas has positive proof that you looted his chicken house, last week. I should think you'd be ashamed to take communion after such a rascally deed as that.' 'Mah goo'ness, sah,' said Cal, reproachfully. 'Ah wouldn't let a few measly chickens stand 'twixt me an' de Lawd's table.'—Washington Star.

Horticultural News

SLUGS ARE EASY TO CONTROL

Best Spray is Arsenate of Lead. Applied in Such Manner as to Cover Surface of Leaves.

(By C. P. GILLETTE, Colorado Agricultural College, Fort Collins, Colo.)

The dark brown snail-like larvae that appear on the upper side of the leaves of cherry and pear trees during the latter part of June and early in July are the young of what is known as one of the sawflies. This insect is black, about as large as an ordinary housefly, but possessed of four wings.

These flies deposit their eggs, one in a place, just beneath the cuticle of the leaf by means of their sharp ovipositor. The location of each egg is indicated by a brown spot about the



Colorado Cherry Tree.

size of a small pin head. With the point of a knife the epidermis of the leaf may be raised so as to expose the white egg beneath. The damage done by these slugs is often serious to the cherry and pear foliage and is sometimes quite destructive, also, to the foliage of plum and quince.

Remedies: These slugs are very easily destroyed, either by an arsenical spray or by the use of white hellebore. The best arsenical to use is arsenate of lead and should be applied as a misty spray so as to cover the upper surface of the leaves as soon as the slugs are seen in any considerable numbers. Use in the proportion of: Lead paste, one pound; water, 30 gallons.

Use the white hellebore in the proportion of one ounce of the powder to each three gallons of water and spray as directed in case of arsenate of lead, above.

White hellebore is fully as efficient as the arsenate of lead and is to be recommended in all cases where there is fruit nearly mature upon the trees, as it is not likely to do any serious injury to persons who might eat freely of the fruit afterwards.

GOOD APPLE-PICKING RULES

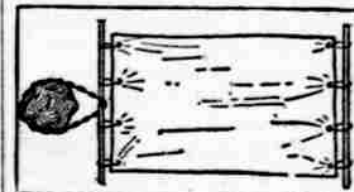
Handle Fruit as Gently and Carefully as You Would Eggs—Pick No Speckled Specimens.

1. Pick lower limbs first.
2. See that the ladder is pushed into the tree gently so as not to knock off or bruise the fruit.
3. Hang the basket so as to be able to pick with both hands.
4. Lay the apples in; do not drop or throw them.
5. Pick no speckled apples.
6. Pick no small, green ones.
7. Do not take much time picking a few little apples out of reach—let them go.
8. In emptying, pour gently, as you would eggs.
9. Do not set one basket or crate on another so that the apples below will be bruised.
10. Lift and set down gently all filled crates.
11. Use spring wagon in hauling, avoid rough ground and go slow except on smooth road.

MAKE FRUIT PICKING EASIER

Scarcity of Help Compels Kansas Man to Arrange Device for Gathering Apple Crop.

On account of scarcity of help last year I contrived up this contrivance to make fruit picking easier, writes H. W. Prouty of Hesston, Kan., in Farmers, Mail and Breeze. It worked fine and



Canvas Holds Apples.

I had little bruised fruit. Two persons can operate it handily. One to shake the fruit from the limbs and the other to hold up the canvas at the outer end. The person holding the canvas goes round and round the tree, keeping under the limb that is being shaken. As the fruit accumulates the canvas is turned edgewise and dumped. A wagon cover is good to use for this purpose.

HAWKS OF BAD CHARACTER



Edward B. Clark tells about those birds of prey in America whose bad habits outweigh the good points. Sharp-shinned and cooper hawks are the worst culprits. Look out for them.

It is an easy task, but not altogether a congenial one, to write about the hawks of America in whose lives the evil outweighs the good. When one sets down black marks against a bird's character he invites death for the bird, and this is not a pleasant thing to do for one who believes that the interest which a bird of evil disposition adds to the general scheme of life ought to be sufficient to save the species from extermination, even if it dearly loves a chicken for dinner and a song bird for breakfast.

It is easy to write about the injurious hawks of this country because there are so few of them. Most of our birds of prey, the hawks and the owls, do more good than harm. There are only a scant half dozen or so into whom nature has implanted the desire for evil deeds. Nature is supposed to do everything, or at any rate almost everything, well and so it may be that if we kill the bold buccannier birds who do a bit of thieving now and then, we may rue it one day for some reason not yet disclosed to the human mind.

The scientists tell us that perhaps the two most injurious hawks in America are the sharp-shinned and the cooper hawks. These two birds do a large part of the thieving which the farmers of the country lay at the door of the soaring hawk, the red-tailed, the red-shouldered, and some others.

The sharp-shinned gentleman, called Accipiter velox, by the ornithologists, is, as somebody has put it, "a brute of a bird." Vernon Bailey of the biological survey of the department of agriculture has written thus about this bird of more than questionable life:

"Among the hawks, the sharp-shinned is a veritable bushwhacker. His light body, short wings, and long tail enable him to double and turn among the brush and branches, and in a noiseless, foxlike way, pounce over a hedgerow or brush heap into the midst of a flock of sparrows, swoop under the low branches and pick his bird from the ground, or dart through the treetops and snatch one in midair from the midst of a startled flock. His small size is so much more than compensated by his audacity that one bird often becomes the terror of the poultry yard, taking the small and half-grown chickens regularly, and sometimes killing and eating a full-grown hen many times its own weight."

I once saw a sharp-shinned hawk swoop down into a flock of English

sparrows on one of the crowded corners of the city of Chicago. A trolley car was thundering along at the moment the sharp-shinned made its descent. It missed its prey, much to my disappointment, for I don't like English sparrows, and I have a sneaking admiration for the bold bird which dares to make a try for its breakfast no matter what perils impend.

The Cooper hawk, called by the scientists Accipiter cooperi, is just as much of a villain, if you want to look at him that way, as is his brother Accipiter, surnamed velox. This bird is just as daring as the sharp-shinned, and being somewhat larger is able to attack successfully larger prey. Dr. A. K. Fisher, the foremost American authority on the birds of prey, has this to say about the freebooter under discussion:

"Cooper's hawk, which resembles the sharp-shinned hawk closely in everything except size, is less northern in its distribution. . . . The food of this hawk, like that of its smaller congener, consists almost entirely of wild birds and poultry, though from its superior size and strength it is able to cope successfully with much larger birds, and hence is much more to be dreaded. . . . The flight of this species is very rapid, irregular, and usually is carried at no great height from the ground, in all these particulars closely resembling that of the sharp-shinned hawk."

One of the most destructive of the American birds of prey is the goshawk, otherwise Accipiter atricapillus. The goshawk is a big bird, something more than a foot and a half in length, and seemingly it has the strength of—well we won't say ten, but two. Its nesting place is either in the mountains or way up in the northern regions. It preys on game birds and rabbits in the summer season and in the winter it comes southward from its summer home to take its pick of the fat poultry of the land. The goshawk is a daring and a hardy bird. It typifies the wild life of mountain and plain, and as such it seemingly might be allowed to keep its place in nature's plan, but settlement usually is allowed to count for little when the loss of a prize rooster or hen is in the other side of the balance.

Now we get away from the accipiters and get into the Genus Falco. The duck hawk, Falco peregrinus anatum, is a true falcon. Florence Merriam Bailey, in her "Handbook of Birds of the Western United States," says that the duck hawk ranks next to the goshawk as a fierce bird of prey. According to my way of looking at it, bad as the bird is, any man who shoots it ought to be shot himself. The duck hawk has that high courage which ought to appeal to everybody who has red blood in him on his own account.

The duck hawk flies as swift and as straight as the proverbial arrow. No poultry raiser has any grudge against this falcon, for it disdains tame and humble quarry and flies like an eagle, almost wholly upon game. The duck hawk will strike down in mid air a bird of twice its weight, and it will overtake the swiftest winged duck that flies. He is a pirate and everything else that is bad, but he lives the free and untrammelled life which nature taught him to live and so if it is necessary to kill something, go and kill nature.

There probably are no injurious hawks in the United States except those which have been named. Of course this qualified statement may be disputed, but for the most part our hawks are known to be largely beneficial and concerning those about which there is some doubt the balance of good and evil seems to be just about even. The hawks that have been named and in part described are, as one might say, the worst of the bunch.

BEING WELL IS AN ASSET

Physical Health Is Beginning to Be Recognized at Its Real Value to the Community.

"Health insurance legislation will be introduced here very shortly if America as a progressive democracy is going to compete successfully in the world's markets and at the same time conserve the stamina of her workers."

This opinion was expressed by Felix M. Warburg of the banking house of Kuhn, Loeb and company, brother of Paul M. Warburg of the federal reserve board. He was referring especially to the health insurance bill brought out by the American association for labor legislation this year. Mr. Warburg explains his interest in health insurance by his first-hand acquaintance with its working in Germany.

"I lived in Germany at the time the law for health insurance was passed and put into operation and the effect from what I have been told has been excellent," he said. "It is only by means of a system of universal health insurance that the service of advanced medical science can be brought to the care of the workers as a whole, while at the same time the payment of joint contributions brings economic pressure to bear on the state, the employers and the worker himself to prevent disease. In other words, under health insurance all parties concerned are made to feel the cash value of good health."

A new French parachute to be carried on aeroplanes by aviators is forced to open by the explosion of a cartridge at the instant of its release.

CONDENSATIONS

The annual cheese production of Canada amounts to 130,000,000 pounds, of which about one-half is made in Ontario.

The United States produced 66.36 per cent of the 400,483,489 barrels of petroleum that entered the markets of the world in 1914.

The phrase "entente cordiale" was first used to express the friendly relations existing between France and England, in 1843.

Flowers will turn to the light of the electric lamp just as they do to the sun.

A solution of soft soap, instead of water, was used in making a waterproof concrete in building the foundations of a grain elevator on a river bank in Budapest.

In granting concessions for development of its recently discovered potash deposits Spain is requiring concessionaries to reserve for national consumption such parts of the salts as the government deems advisable.

Locust beans are produced yearly to the extent of 30,000 tons.

Impressment—the seizing of men for the British navy—was practiced for centuries, and did not become obsolete till just before the Crimean war. Sometimes the crews were taken from foreign ships on the high seas.

The death rate from cancer in Pennsylvania is said to be increasing at a rate out of all proportion to the growth in population. It is predicted that there will be 6,000 deaths from the disease in that state this year.